

In the Claims:

Claims 1-54 (Cancelled)

1 ~~55.~~ (Currently Amended) An isolated, recombinant polypeptide comprising a member selected from the group consisting of

(a) the amino acid sequence SEQ ID NO:2; and

(b) an immunogenic fragment of at least 15 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2;

wherein the immunogenic fragment isolated polypeptide, when administered to a subject in a suitable composition which can include an adjuvant, or a suitable carrier coupled to the polypeptide, induces an antibody or T-cell mediated immune response that recognizes the to-a polypeptide consisting of SEQ ID NO:2.

2 ~~56.~~ (Currently Amended): The isolated, recombinant polypeptide of claim ~~55~~, wherein the polypeptide is according to (a).

3 ~~57.~~ (Currently Amended): The isolated, recombinant polypeptide of claim ~~56~~, wherein the polypeptide is according to (b).

4 ~~58.~~ (Currently Amended): The isolated, recombinant polypeptide of claim ~~57~~, wherein the immunogenic fragment of (b) comprises at least 20 contiguous amino acids of SEQ ID NO:2; wherein the immunogenic fragment, when administered to a subject in a suitable composition which can include an adjuvant, or a suitable carrier coupled to the polypeptide, induces an antibody or T-cell mediated immune response that recognizes the polypeptide SEQ ID NO:2.

5 ~~59.~~ (Currently amended): The isolated, recombinant polypeptide of claim ~~58~~, wherein the isolated, recombinant polypeptide consists of SEQ ID NO:2.

60. (Cancelled)

6 / 61. (Currently Amended): An immunogenic composition comprising the isolated, recombinant polypeptide of Claim 55 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

62. (Cancelled)

7 / 63. (Previously Presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 61, further comprising an adjuvant.

8 / 64. (Currently Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 63, wherein the adjuvant is comprises a TH-1 type adjuvant.

9 / 65. (Previously Presented): The immunogenic composition of claim 64, wherein the TH-1 type adjuvant is selected from the group consisting of 3D-MPL and QS21.

10 / 66. (Currently Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 61, wherein the carrier is comprises an oil-in-water emulsion.

11 / 67. (Currently Amended): The immunogenic composition of claim 61, wherein the carrier is comprises an aluminum salt.

12 / 68. (Currently Amended): A fusion protein comprising the isolated, recombinant polypeptide of claim 55 and a polypeptide selected to:

- (a) provide T-helper epitopes;
- (b) facilitate purification from a recombinant expression system; or
- (c) stabilize the isolated, recombinant polypeptide during recombinant expression.

13 / 69. (New): An isolated polypeptide consisting of SEQ ID NO:2.